TRENDS

A3275-2

ASSOCIATION
OF AMERICAN
RAILROADS

Office of Information
and Public Affairs
50 F Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20001
(202) 639-2555

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, March 22, 1990 -- Carloadings originated on major U.S. railroads during the week ended March 17 totaled 338,925, down 2.1 percent from the comparable week of 1989 but 0.4 percent above the preceding week of 1990, the Association of American Railroads (AAR) reported today. The railroads reporting account for approximately 94 percent of all rail carloads.

Carloadings originated were down 2.9 percent in the East and 1.1 percent in the West, compared with a year ago.

From the comparable 1989 week, coal loadings rose by 3,395 cars (2.6 percent). Grain loadings were down 3,170 cars (9.8 percent), while loadings of motor vehicles and equipment fell by 2,455 cars (11.3 percent).

Cumulative carloadings for the first 11 weeks of 1990 totaled 3,668,038, up 0.8 percent from the comparable period a year ago.

Intermodal traffic on Class I railroads -- which is not included in the carloadings -- totaled 120,048 trailers and/or containers for the week ended March 17, up 3.2 percent from the comparable week of 1989.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 11 weeks of 1990 was 1,272,177 trailers and/or containers, 3.8 percent above the comparable 1989 total.

The AAR also estimated that ton-miles carried on major railroads in the week ended March 11 totaled 19.7 billion, down 1.5 percent from the comparable week of 1989. Cumulative volume for the first 11 weeks of 1990 was an estimated 212.9 billion ton-miles, up 1.3 percent from the comparable period of last year.

(more)

WEEKLY TRAFFIC OF MAJOR RAILROADS
FOR THE WEEK ENDING MARCH 17, 1990

CARLOADS ORIGINATED, BY COMMODITY GROUP

COMMODITY	WEEK ENDING MARCH 17, 1990	COMPARISON WITH SAME WEEK OF 1989	CHANGE	COMPARISON WITH PRECEDING WEEK	CHANGE
Grain	29,233	32,403	-9.8 %	30,521	-4.2 %
Farm Products, Ex. Grain	1,567	2,118	-26.0	1,587	-1.3
Metallic Ores	14,015	14,505	-3.4	15,193	-7.8
Coal	131,543	128,148	2.6	129,049	1.9
Crushed Stone, Sand & Gravel	13,149	13,401	-1.9	12,572	4.6
Nonmetallic Minerals	9,583	9,365	2.3	9,097	5.3
Grain Mill Products	10,395	9,752	6.6	9,965	4.3
Food & Kindred Products	8,780	8,835	-.6	8,876	-1.1
Primary Forest Products	10,351	11,565	-10.5	10,420	-.7
Lumber & Wood Products	6,372	7,053	-9.7	6,376	-.1
Pulp, Paper & Allied Products	10,639	10,951	-2.8	10,681	-.4
Chemicals	28,669	28,556	.4	28,567	.4
Petroleum Products	4,923	5,171	-4.8	5,098	-3.4
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	9,982	10,614	-6.0	10,252	-2.6
Coke	5,650	5,913	-4.4	5,697	-.8
Metals & Products	9,822	9,759	.6	9,340	5.2
Motor Vehicles & Equipment	19,266	21,721	-11.3	19,281	-.1
Waste & Scrap Materials	8,503	9,404	-9.6	8,082	5.2
All Other Carloads	6,483	7,047	-8.0	7,070	-8.3
Total	338,925	346,281	-2.1 %	337,726	.4 %

SUMMARY: CARLOADS ORIGINATED, INTERMODAL TRAFFIC AND ESTIMATED TON-MILES

TRAFFIC	WEEK ENDING MARCH 17, 1990 1990	1989	CHANGE	CUMULATIVE: 11 WEEKS ENDING MARCH 17, 1990 1990	1989	CHANGE
Carloads Originated	338,925	346,281	-2.1 %	3,668,038	3,638,529	.8 %
Intermodal Traffic Originated						
Trailers	68,528	68,601	-.1	718,747	710,335	1.2
Containers	51,520	47,780	7.8	553,430	514,689	7.5
Total	120,048	116,381	3.2	1,272,177	1,225,024	3.8
Estimated Ton-Miles Class I Railroads (Billions)	19.7	20.0	-1.5 %	212.9	210.1	1.3 %